



North Dakota

FARM REPORTER

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CATTLE INVENTORY

North Dakota
All cattle and calves as of January 1, 2005 totaled 1.71 million head, down 2 percent from the 1.75 million on January 1, 2004. This was the fourth year that total January 1 inventory has declined since 1.98 million head in 2001 and was the lowest total inventory since 1991, which was 1.70 million head.

Beef cows, at 947,000, were also up 1 percent but down 3 percent from 2003. Milk cows, at 33,000 head, were equal to a year ago but down from 37,000 head on January 1, 2003.

Heifers for beef cow replacement, at 147,000 head, were down 6 percent from 156,000 head on January 1, 2004 and were the lowest number since the 140,000 head on January 1, 1992. Heifers for milk cow replacement, at 18,000, were up from 14,000 a year ago and was the highest January 1 inventory since 20,000 head in 1998. Other heifers not for breeding, at 210,000 head, were down from 215,000 head a year ago and were at their lowest level since January 1, 1999, which was also 210,000 head.

Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, at 230,000 head, were down 12 percent from last year and were the lowest since January 1, 1993, which was also 230,000 head. The 2004 calf crop was estimated at 960,000 head, equal to 2003's calf crop but down from the 2002 calf crop of 1.00 million head.

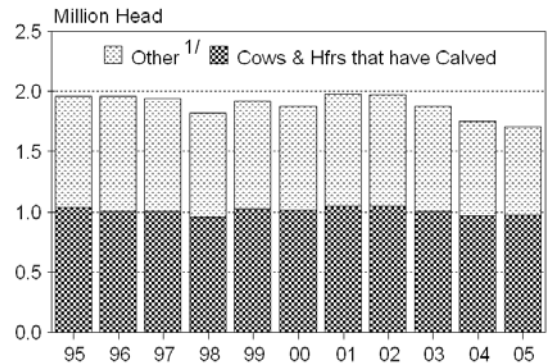
United States
All cattle and calves as of January 1, 2005, totaled 95.8 million head, 1 percent above the 94.9 million on January 1, 2004.

Beef cows, at 33.1 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2004. Milk cows, at 9.01 million, were up slightly from January 1, 2004.

Other class estimates on January 1, 2005, and the change from January 1, 2004, are as follows: all heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.7 million, up 2 percent; beef replacement heifers, 5.75 million, up 4 percent; milk replacement heifers, 4.13 million, up 3 percent; and other heifers, 9.79 million, down slightly. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.5 million, up 1 percent.

The 2004 calf crop was estimated at 37.6 million head, down 1 percent from 2003. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 27.4 million, down 1 percent from 2003.

Cattle Inventory
North Dakota, January 1, 1995-2005



^{1/}Other includes heifers not calved, steers and bulls 500 pounds and over and calves under 500 pounds.

Cattle and Calves Inventory, January 1

Class	North Dakota		United States ^{1/}	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
	-- 1,000 Head --		-- 1,000 Head --	
Cattle & Calves	1,750	1,710	94,888	95,848
Cows & Heifers That Calved	970	980	41,851	42,060
Beef Cows	937	947	32,861	33,055
Milk Cows	33	33	8,990	9,005
Heifers 500 Pounds & Over	385	375	19,345	19,673
For Beef Cow Replacement	156	147	5,518	5,746
Expected to Calve ^{2/}	--	--	3,493	3,586
For Milk Cow Replacement	14	18	4,020	4,133
Expected to Calve ^{2/}	--	--	2,761	2,830
Other Heifers	215	210	9,806	9,793
Steers 500 Pounds & Over	260	230	16,277	16,511
Bulls 500 Pounds & Over	50	55	2,206	2,219
Calves Under 500 Pounds	85	70	15,210	15,385
Calf Crop^{3/}	960	960	37,903	37,625
Cattle on Feed	65	60	13,813	13,749

^{1/} Totals may not add due to rounding. ^{2/} Replacement heifers expected to calve during the year. Published at U.S. level only. ^{3/} Preceding year.

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SHEEP INVENTORY

North Dakota

All sheep and lamb inventory in North Dakota on January 1, 2005, totaled 105,000 head, up 5 percent from 2003's revised 100,000 head. This was the second smallest state flock since records began in 1920 while January 1, 2004 was the smallest recorded. Breeding sheep inventory increased 7,000 head to 81,000. This was 9 percent higher than the last year's revised 74,000 head, and the second lowest since records began in 1905. Ewes one year old and older at 63,000 head, were up from 2003's revised 59,000. Rams were unchanged from a year ago at 2,000. Replacement lambs totaled 16,000 head, up from last year's revised 13,000.

Market sheep and lambs totaled 24,000 head, down from 26,000 on January 1, 2004. Seventy percent of the market lambs were 85 pounds or more, down from 72 percent last year. Thirteen percent of the total were lambs less than 65 pounds, 17 percent were 65-84 pounds, 31 percent were 85-105 pounds and 39 percent were more than 105 pounds. Only 1,000 head of the total were market sheep while 23,000 were market lambs.

The 2004 lamb crop of 88,000 head was up 4 percent from 2003's revised lamb crop of 85,000. The 2004 lambing rate was 149 per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2004, compared with 120 in 2003.

United States

All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2005, totaled 6.14 million head, up slightly from 2004, but 3 percent below two years ago. The inventory has leveled off and is showing a slight increase for the first time since 1990.

Breeding sheep inventory increased to 4.53 million head on January 1, 2005, up 1 percent from 4.50 million head on January 1, 2004. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.57 million head, were 1 percent below last year.

Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2005, totaled 1.60 million head, down slightly from January 1, 2004. Market lambs comprised 95 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-six percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 13 percent were 65-84 pounds, 24 percent were 85-105 pounds, 32 percent were over 105 pounds, and 5 percent were market sheep.

The 2004 lamb crop of 4.10 million head, a record low, was down 1 percent from 2003. The 2004 lambing rate was 113 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2004, up 3 percent from 2003.

Sheep Inventory, January 1

Class	North Dakota		United States	
	2004	2005	2004	2005
	--- 1,000 Head ---		--- 1,000 Head ---	
All Sheep and Lambs	100.0	105.0	6,105.0	6,135.0
Total Market	26.0	24.0	1,606.0	1,602.0
Lambs	25.0	23.0	1,540.4	1,527.9
Under 65 Pounds	3.0	3.0	431.5	413.2
65 to 84 Pounds	4.0	4.0	255.9	214.7
85 to 105 Pounds	11.0	7.0	366.8	381.9
Over 105 Pounds	7.0	9.0	486.2	518.1
Sheep	1.0	1.0	65.6	74.1
Total Breeding	74.0	81.0	4,499.0	4,533.0
Ewes, One Year & Older	59.0	63.0	3,609.5	3,572.5
Rams, One Year & Older	2.0	2.0	188.0	190.0
Replacement Lambs	13.0	16.0	701.5	770.5
Lamb Crop ^{1/}	85.0	88.0	4,140.0	4,096.0
From Breeding Ewes 1 yr + Jan 1	71.0	59.0	3,773.0	3,609.5
Rate Per 100 Ewes 1 yr +	120	149	110	113

1/ Preceding year.

WOOL PRODUCTION

North Dakota

Shorn wool production during 2004 was 745,000 pounds, up 15 percent from 2003. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 82,000 head, up from 75,000 head during 2003. Average price paid for wool sold in 2004 was \$0.75 per pound, up from \$0.60 per pound in 2003. The total value of wool was \$559,000, up 43 percent from \$390,000 in 2003 which was due to higher volume of wool shorn and price per pound.

United States

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2004 was 37.6 million pounds, down 2 percent from 2003. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 5.07 million head, down slightly from 2003. The average price paid for wool sold in 2004 was \$0.80 per pound for a total value of \$29.9 million dollars, up 6 percent from \$28.1 million dollars in 2003.

Wool Production and Value

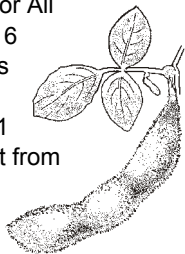
State ^{1/}	Sheep Shorn		Weight per Fleece		Production		Price per Pound		Value ^{2/}	
	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004	2003	2004
	--- 1,000 Head ---		--- Pounds ---		--- 1,000 Pounds ---		--- Cents ---		--- 1,000 Dollars ---	
North Dakota	75.0	82.0	8.7	9.1	650	745	60	75	390	559
California	500.0	480.0	7.0	7.1	3,500	3,400	79	82	2,765	2,788
Colorado	360.0	390.0	7.2	6.6	2,580	2,570	74	85	1,909	2,185
Minnesota	140.0	140.0	6.8	6.5	950	910	30	37	285	337
Montana	272.0	267.0	9.5	9.3	2,597	2,472	103	117	2,675	2,892
South Dakota	330.0	345.0	8.0	7.6	2,625	2,610	76	72	1,995	1,879
Texas	800.0	810.0	7.0	6.9	5,600	5,600	90	102	5,040	5,712
Wyoming	390.0	390.0	9.4	9.3	3,650	3,640	110	117	4,015	4,259
United States	5,074.0	5,073.0	7.5	7.4	38,299	37,622	73	80	28,126	29,931

1/ Published are a few selected states from the National release. 2/ Production multiplied by marketing year average price.

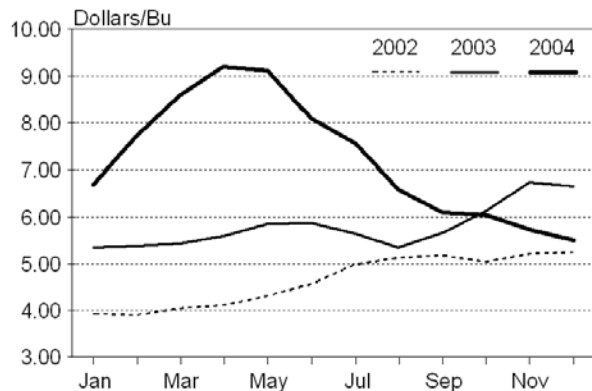
AGRICULTURAL PRICES

North Dakota

The Index of Prices Received for All Farm Products in January is 116 percent of the 1990-1992 base. This is up 2 percent from last year and two years ago. The All Crops Index, at 111 percent of the base, is down 3 percent from January 2004 while the All Livestock Index, at 129 percent, is up 16 percent from last year.



**Soybean Prices Received
North Dakota, 2002-2004**



United States

The January All Farm Products Index is 110 percent of its 1990-92 base, down 1 percent from the December index and down 2 percent from the January 2004 index. The All Crops Index is 100, down 3 percent from December and 12 percent below January 2004. The Livestock and Products Index, at 121, is up 1 percent from last month and up 10 percent from January 2004.

Index Numbers of Farm Prices, January 2005

Indexes and Ratios	North Dakota			United States		
	Jan 2004	Dec 2004	Jan 2005	Jan 2004	Dec 2004	Jan 2005
Prices Received	(1990-92 = 100)					
All Farm Products	114	119	116	112	111	110
Crops	115	116	111	113	103	100
Food Grains	119	113	111	124	113	113
Feed Grains & Hay	109	104	94	105	93	90
Oil Bearing Crops ^{1/}	125	121	120	131	100	96
Potatoes & Dry Beans ^{2/}	97	123	113	97	100	101
Livestock	111	129	129	110	120	121
Meat Animals	113	136	133	104	118	120
Dairy Products	98	103	98	101	126	122
Other Livestock Products ^{3/}	99	99	99	133	118	122
Prices Paid	---	---	---	130	133	134
Ratio ^{4/}	---	---	---	86	83	82

^{1/} Includes non-oil sunflower. ^{2/} North Dakota includes sugarbeets. ^{3/} United States excludes wool. ^{4/} Ratio of Index of Prices Received to Index of Prices Paid.

Prices Received by Farmers, January 2005

Item	Unit	North Dakota			United States			Effective U.S. Parity Price Jan 2005
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary	
		Jan 2004	Dec 2004	Jan 2005	Jan 2004	Dec 2004	Jan 2005	
		--- Dollars ---			--- Dollars ---			- Dollars -
Wheat, All	Bu	3.64	3.29	3.39	3.68	3.39	3.42	9.90
Durum	Bu	3.95	3.49	3.45	3.96	3.57	3.54	---
Other Spring	Bu	3.59	3.27	3.40	3.67	3.46	3.56	---
Winter	Bu	3.27	2.62	2.70	3.66	3.34	3.31	---
Corn	Bu	2.19	1.84	1.70	2.39	2.04	1.98	6.63
Rye	Bu	2.16	---	---	---	---	---	6.22
Oats	Bu	1.33	1.27	1.15	1.48	1.56	1.51	3.94
Barley, All	Bu	2.52	2.21	2.10	2.69	2.47	2.37	6.72
Feed	Bu	1.91	1.45	1.40	2.15	1.64	1.66	---
Malting	Bu	2.72	2.43	2.40	2.94	2.73	2.70	---
Sunflower, All	Cwt	12.20	13.90	14.60	12.10	13.50	13.80	---
Oil	Cwt	11.20	13.00	13.00	---	---	---	---
Non-oil	Cwt	15.70	18.30	21.00	---	---	---	---
Baled Hay, All ^{1/}	Ton	49.00	56.00	57.00	80.10	84.30	84.20	---
Alfalfa ^{1/}	Ton	58.00	61.00	63.00	84.80	92.40	90.90	---
Other ^{1/}	Ton	39.00	45.00	46.00	70.20	67.10	70.60	---
Canola	Cwt	11.00	9.90	---	---	---	---	---
Flaxseed	Bu	6.14	8.42	9.30	6.08	8.42	9.30	13.40
Soybeans	Bu	6.70	5.50	5.20	7.35	5.45	5.32	16.00
Dry Edible Beans, All	Cwt	15.20	25.70	26.50	17.20	26.70	27.00	50.30
Navy	Cwt	15.80	21.60	---	---	---	---	---
Pinto	Cwt	15.20	26.60	---	---	---	---	---
Potatoes, All	Cwt	5.80	6.00	6.05	5.75	5.27	5.35	14.90
Fresh ^{2/}	Cwt	5.40	6.40	---	6.20	5.52	---	---
Processing	Cwt	5.90	5.70	---	5.36	5.09	---	---
Beef Cattle	Cwt	86.90	98.60	104.00	80.90	86.80	89.10	172.00
Steers & Heifers	Cwt	90.60	108.00	110.00	85.40	91.80	94.20	---
Cows	Cwt	49.90	49.10	51.00	46.10	48.70	50.00	---
Calves	Cwt	113.00	120.00	122.00	110.00	122.00	123.00	234.00
Sheep	Cwt	43.00	40.00	---	43.80	44.80	---	84.20
Lambs	Cwt	102.00	108.00	---	104.00	102.00	---	209.00
Hogs	Cwt	39.50	52.90	---	36.80	52.30	53.00	106.00

^{1/} Alfalfa, other and all hay are preliminary prices only. ^{2/} Fresh market prices only, includes table stock.

MILK PRODUCTION

North Dakota

Milk production for the October-December, 2004 quarter is estimated at 127 million pounds, down 4 million pounds from the same period for 2003. Average milk cows during the quarter, at 33,000 head, decreased 1,000 head from both the same period for 2003 and the previous July-September, 2004, quarter. Milk produced per cow during the October-December quarter was 3,860 pounds, down from 3,865 pounds a year earlier and 3,950 pounds during the July-September quarter.

Milk Production: October - December

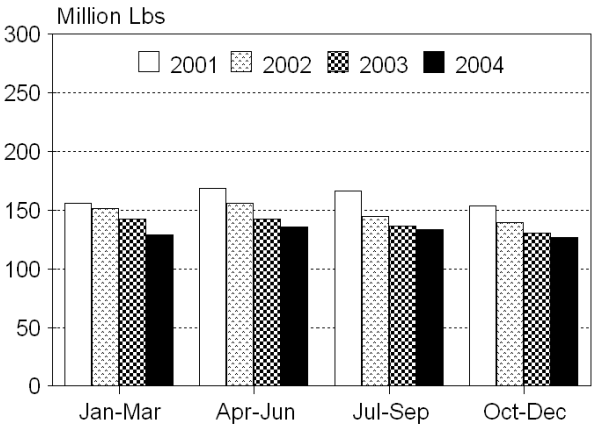
State ^{1/}	Milk Cows ^{2/}		Milk Production ^{3/}		
	2003	2004	2003	2004	Change from 2003
	-- 1,000 Head --		-- Million Pounds --		
					Percent
North Dakota	34	33	131	127	-3.1
California	1,696	1,741	8,695	9,130	5.0
Minnesota	465	460	1,993	1,974	-1.0
New York	661	647	2,871	2,826	-1.6
Wisconsin	1,249	1,237	5,444	5,418	-0.5
United States	9,011	9,018	41,532	41,895	0.9

1/ Published are a few selected states from the National release.
2/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh. 3/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

United States

Milk production in the U.S. during the October-December quarter totaled 41.9 billion pounds, up 0.9 percent from the October-December quarter for 2003. Production per cow during the October-December quarter averaged 4,646 pounds, up from 4,609 pounds the same quarter for 2003. The average number of milk cows in the U.S. during the quarter was 9.02 million head, 7,000 head more than the same period for 2003.

Quarterly Milk Production
North Dakota, 2001-2004



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